

CHANDLER REPUBLIC

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GRAINS OF TRUTH

Filmmaker J.D. McLelland of Gilbert documents the stories and people behind the return of heirloom grains as a way to restore nutrition and taste to flour and its products.

BUSINESS, Page 3

Steve Sossaman of Sossaman Farms in Queen Creek works with White Sonora wheat in the making of the documentary "The Grain Divide."

NICK OZA/THE REPUBLIC



February science fest in Chandler will span 3 days

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School for blind finishes 1st phase of renovation

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Rockabilly Bash combines classic cars, classic chow

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City will host 3-day Science Spectacular

By Weldon B. Johnson
The Republic | azcentral.com

Chandler high-tech companies, schools, merchants and artists will encourage an interest in science and technology during the three-day Chandler Science Spectacular in February.

The three-day celebration is part of the Arizona SciTech Festival, a statewide movement to promote and celebrate science.

Participation has increased each of the Science Spectacular's three years, and this year's, to be celebrated Feb. 20-22 throughout the city, is no exception.

Chandler spokeswoman Jane Poston said the Science Spectacular fits with the city's economic-development philosophy.

"It ties in with the strategy of getting high-tech, high-wage employers to come to Chandler," Poston said. "It extends all the way to getting students involved in science to make sure we have the employment base that those businesses are looking for. That's the number one question they ask. This helps show we are a technology- and science-friendly city and it showcases what our schools are doing, too."

The Science Spectacular begins with the Chandler Tech Crawl on Thursday, Feb. 20. Many of the city's high-tech firms will be open to the public for the evening, including Intel and businesses at Chandler's Innovations Incubator.

On Friday, Feb. 21, science will mix with the monthly Third Friday Art Walk downtown. The artists will be encouraged to talk more about the process behind what they do.

Last year during the art walk there were glass-blowing demonstrations and booths to provide information on technical aspects of the artistic process.

"We've done this for a couple of years now and it's been successful," said Jennifer Lindley, Downtown Chandler Community Partnership executive director. "We're always excited to have the artists talk about what they do. We even have some of the merchants get involved. For example, last year we had a booth with SanTan Brewing Co. where they could

CELEBRATE SCIENCE

Chandler Tech Crawl, 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20: Some of the biggest names in science are opening their doors to families during the Chandler Tech Crawl. To get involved, contact Odetta Moore at 480-782-3038 or via e-mail at odetta.moore@chandleraz.gov.

A Night of Art & Science, 6-10 p.m. Friday, Feb. 21: Technology meets art in downtown Chandler during the Third Friday Art Walk. To get involved contact Jennifer Lindley at 480-855-3539 or via e-mail at jennifer@downtownchandler.org.

Chandler's Science Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22: Science meets daily life in downtown Chandler with interactive demonstrations and activities by Chandler's technology companies. Check out the next generation of science from Arizona State University, University of Arizona and TechShop at the Chandler Innovation Center. To get involved, contact Odetta Moore at 480-782-3038 or via e-mail at odetta.moore@chandleraz.gov.

talk about the science involved in making beer."

The third day of the celebration will coincide with the annual Classic Car & Hot Rod Show. The car show draws nearly 10,000 each year so organizers of the Science Spectacular are expecting some spillover from the car show, which is on both sides of Arizona Avenue between Buffalo and Boston streets. The Science Spectacular will be set up just east of that.

"We're trying to find some ways to integrate those two events," Poston said. "The hot rods will be there. That's already a draw. So we thought there was a neat connection between automobiles and the science behind them."

There is no admission charge to the Chandler Science Spectacular.

Information:
www.chandleraz.gov/science.